<u>In the Claims</u>

1   1.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing security with respect to who

2   provided digital data at what time, said method comprising the steps of:

3   performing a serially chained certification process including:

4   a) forming a first interval certification at a first server including the server's

5   identification, the start time of an interval chain in ~~UTC~~ <u>Coordinated Universal</u>

6   <u>Time</u>, the start time of the interval in ~~UTC~~ <u>Coordinated Universal Time</u>, the stop

7   time of the interval, a public key for the interval, a digital signature for the

8   interval, signed by a previous interval's private key, and a digital signature for the

9   interval, signed by the interval's private key;

10   b) upon expiration of the first interval, destroying its private key;

11   c) continuing steps (a) and (b) for second, third, and following intervals so that intervals

12   are cross-chained with other servers to form a widely witnessed, temporal web of

13   signed intervals of time; <u>and</u>

14   encoding certification information in graphical form to form an indicia that

15   relates to the authenticity of the document.

1   2.   (Unamended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2   decoding the indicia to authenticate a document.